



Oifig anStiúrthóir  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar  
Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht,  
Baile Átha Cliath D24 XNP2

Office of the Director  
National Ambulance Service

Rivers Building, Tallaght Cross  
Tallaght, Dublin, D24 XNP2

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

t 01 4631624/6  
e [director.nas@hse.ie](mailto:director.nas@hse.ie)

Ref: WM/PQ/44275/24

Deputy Claire Kerrane,  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

19<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**PQ 44275/24 To ask the Minister for Health ; why a policy of the National Ambulance Service is not applied to Roscommon, in te  
vehicle, where there are full-time, permanent advanced paramedics in operation in the HSE Mid-West (closure of Nenagh and EN  
department also closed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Claire Kerrane**

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The National Ambulance Service first listed an Advanced Paramedic position in Roscommon on its transfer list in December 2023, at which time it was not possible to fill the position. The position was subsequently relisted on the national transfer list earlier this year, however, there remained no means of filling the position.

The role of Advanced Paramedic remains open on the national transfer list, and both NAS HR and the HSE Regional Management team continue to work towards filling the role.

In relation to your points on the manning of Rapid Response Vehicles (RRVs) and the policy concerning the percentage drop in cover before a Paramedic or Advanced Paramedic can be taken off to cover an emergency ambulance, you are correct—this policy is not in operation in the West. Specifically, the Roscommon RRV operates under a WRC agreement that was negotiated and agreed upon with unions following the commencement of the RRV. I can confirm that this agreement is currently being fully honoured.

In regards to rostering, NAS staffing has increased in Roscommon in recent years. This includes the supported the operation of three 24/7 ambulance bases in the county and the rollout of pathways that allow patients to be transported by NAS to the Medical Assessment and Local Injury Units at Roscommon University Hospital. Rapid Response Vehicles still operate within Roscommon crewed by highly trained paramedic and advanced paramedics.

The NAS Clinical Hub and alternative care pathways initiatives across the country are also vital in improving patient access to care nationwide





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I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

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General Manager Operations West  
National Ambulance Service

